

IN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 1-8 (Canceled)

9. (Currently Amended) A method for preparing an anhydrous form of a ~~novel~~ crystal of 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamide]-3-vinyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (syn isomer), comprising acidifying a solution containing 7-[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamide]-3-vinyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (syn isomer) in a temperature range from -5°C to 5°C to cause formation of a crystalline hydrate, wherein ~~a novel crystal~~ the crystalline hydrate obtained by the ~~method according to claim 5~~ is further frozen at temperatures from -5°C to -80°C, and then subjected to vacuum drying to form anhydrous -[2-(2-aminothiazol-4-yl)-2-hydroxyiminoacetamide]-3-vinyl-3-cephem-4-carboxylic acid (syn isomer).

Claims 10-19 (Canceled)